



Steven W. Troxler  
Commissioner

## North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

### **Ag and Equine Partners Hay Relief Program (AMENDED)**

A Special Project of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

#### **Overview**

Through generous donations from North Carolina citizens, churches, civic organizations and agriculture-related organizations, and an allocation from the North Carolina Council of State, funds are available to defray some of the cost associated with transportation of hay **from out of state**. The dates of delivery qualifying for the program are July 1, 2007, through April 30, 2008. Reimbursements will be made on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted.

#### **How the Program Works**

- These funds are available to reimburse farmers for hay brought in from outside North Carolina and delivered between July 1, 2007, and April 30, 2008.
- To be eligible to receive reimbursement for transportation costs, a buyer of hay or forage must submit an Ag & Equine Partners Transportation Reimbursement Request form, along with all pertinent transportation documentation. Farmers should retain a copy of the bill of lading or transportation receipt for their records.
- Applicants will be limited to cost share reimbursement on a total of 4 loads. All applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2008.
- Applicants who have already received reimbursement under the program can still apply for only a maximum of 4 total loads.
- Hay or forage product must be baled and the load must weigh at least 10,000 pounds, (an estimated 200 small or 14 large bales).
- Applicants can utilize their own transportation (use their own truck, tractor-trailer, etc.), but should submit hay purchase documentation in place of transportation documents.
- Hauls must be a minimum of 50 miles one way. Reimbursement will be based on \$0.50 per roundtrip mile or \$1.00 per loaded mile with a maximum of \$500 per load.

## **Applying**

Applicants MUST provide all of the following information on the application:

*\*Funds are limited and incomplete applications may mean you do not receive payment if funds run out.*

- Applicant name *(matching the Social Security/Federal Farm Tax ID number provided below)*
- Applicant mailing address and telephone number *(cell number if available)*
- NC Farm ID Premises Identification Number
- Social Security or Federal Farm Tax ID Number for 1099 *(not the tax exempt number)*
- Size of livestock operation
- Seller information
- Transportation information, including cost; farmers are encouraged to keep a copy of the bill of lading or receipt
- Date(s) of delivery
- Number of loaded or roundtrip miles the forage was transported
- Number of large or small bales transported
- Delivery and origination locations
- Signature and date of application

## **Additional Information**

Individuals who want to know more about the Department's Hay Relief Programs are encouraged to visit the Hay Alert website at [www.ncagr.com/hayalert](http://www.ncagr.com/hayalert) or call the toll-free Hay Alert Hotline at 1-866-506-6222.

The Department reserves the right to deny or limit the reimbursement if an applicant's transportation expenses appear to be unreasonably excessive, and to request additional information or documentation before making eligibility determinations. The ultimate discretion for eligibility determinations belongs to the Department, and determinations are final once they are rendered.

The Department reserves the right to amend or further clarify the procedures and guidelines of the Ag & Equine Partners Hay Relief Program in order to ensure fair and timely management of the program. Any known cases of fraud or abuse of the program will be prosecuted or pursued to the fullest extent of criminal and civil law.

## **Making a Contribution**

If you are aware of any individual or entity that would consider donating funds to be used in the Ag & Equine Partners Hay Relief Program, please contact Chrissy Lucas at the Department by dialing 919-733-7125 or via e-mail at [christina.lucas@ncmail.net](mailto:christina.lucas@ncmail.net). Contributions to the Ag Partners Hay Relief Program are tax-deductible.